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Use of Control Statement US OFFICIALS ONLY on
NIS Subsections, COMMENTS ON PRINCIPAL SOURCES

REFERENCE: Memorandum from AD/CD to Chief, I&SS and AD/RE,
subject: Use of the caveat "US OFFICIALS ONLY",
dated 5 November 1950.

1. The use of the control statement, US OFFICIALS ONLY, on NIS
subsections, COMMENTS ON PRINCIPAL SOURCES, was approved by the NIS
Committee at its 35th meeting held on 9 August 1949. Up to that date
no control statements had been used for this subsection unless the
entire NIS section to which it applied required a control statement.

2. However, in discussions arising out of the release of NIS to
_____ the Armed Force members of the NIS Committee were directed
by their respective Chiefs of Intelligence to exclude from _____
all COMMENTS ON PRINCIPAL SOURCES relating to the intelligence which
the Armed Force Agencies produced. The Department of State did not,
in general, object to the release of its COMMENTS. However, in view
of the position taken by the Army, Navy and Air Force, the State member
agreed to a similar position in order to avoid the complications result-
ing from the partial release of COMMENTS _____ The DCI was
informed of this decision by memorandum from AD/RE, subject: "Non-
release of NIS Material _____, dated 23 August 1949.

3. Thus, it is apparent that in reaching decision in this matter
the NIS Committee took into consideration additional aspects of the
problem which were not considered in the reference memorandum. More-
over, the recommendations contained in that memorandum, especially
items (c) and (d) would involve unilateral action by CIA wholly
inconsonant with existing agreements and with the inherent authority
of a producing agency to determine the extent to which its own intelli-
gence should be controlled.

THEODORE BABBITT

cc: AD/CD
      AD/RE
      D/NIS